

Four Held as Police Crack Car Theft Case

(Story in Column 5)

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OPENS CAMPAIGN . . . Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, Democratic candidate for President, gestures during a speech at TRW, Inc., in Redondo Beach yesterday. The Vice President opened his Southern California campaign at the Redondo Beach aerospace firm, promising to do everything within his power to make the nation "One America." (Press-Herald Photo)

Speaks at TRW

'One America' Is HHH Goal

Press-Herald Staff Writer
Tanned and smiling, Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey spoke Tuesday noon at the TRW plant in Redondo Beach, blasting extremism and vowing to fight poverty and inequality. While hundreds stood for more than an hour in the glaring sun, the Democratic presidential hopeful promised to "do everything in my power to prevent the spread of nuclear arms." But he also stressed he would work to keep the United States ahead in the space race.

Humphrey received a moderately enthusiastic reception from the crowd, many of whom sported pro-Humphrey placards. A handful of detractors, however, waved signs reading:

- "Humph is for the Birds: Lyndon Bird."
- "Remember Czechago: Dump Humph," and
- "Nixon will save capitalism."

FAR FROM ignoring his hecklers, the candidate joked openly about the signs and addressed comments directly to their owners. Humphrey spoke repeatedly about the importance of free speech, using such words as "manners" and "tolerance." "If we let extremists have their way, they'll drag the rest of us down with them," Humphrey exclaimed. In response to a question from the audience, he condemned (See HUMPHREY, Page A-2)

\$8,000 In Safe Stolen

A safe containing \$8,000 cash and an unknown number of checks and other valuables was taken at gun point early Monday from the Mariner Motor Hotel, 2450 Pacific Coast Hwy. Night clerk Joseph Bashi of Room 120 told police that two young men carrying revolvers entered the hotel lobby at 5 p.m. They forced the victim and a hotel guest into the restroom, binding them with leather straps. Both suspects reportedly wore pillow case masks and blue stockings over their hands. The stolen cabinet was used to store hotel receipts and valuables belonging to guests. Bashi and the witness were freed by another hotel guest about 10 minutes after the robbery, police said.

Sharon Wins \$1,000 Award in Pageant

Sharon Kay Terrill, former Miss Torrance and the reigning Miss California, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship and a trophy in the Miss America Pageant. Miss Terrill was honored for her interpretation of a poem during the talent section of the preliminary judging. The award was announced Saturday evening during finals for the 1969 Miss America Pageant. Eighteen-year-old Judith Anne Ford, Miss Illinois, was named Miss America of 1969. Miss Terrill did not place among the 10 finalists. Sharon left Atlantic City Monday. She will make an appearance in Illinois and stop in Santa Cruz. She is expected to return to Torrance shortly and will live here during the remainder of her reign as Miss California.

Council Sets Hearings on Alternate Freeway Routes

Commission's Endorsement Ruled Invalid

The City Council decided Tuesday night to hold formal public hearings on the route of the proposed Torrance Freeway. In the same action, the council directed the Planning Commission to hold a similar formal hearing, calling the commission's earlier endorsement the "blue-yellow" route "out of order."

A formal hearing differs from an ordinary meeting in that it is announced in legal notices placed in newspapers one week prior to the hearing. The council voted for a formal hearing on the route in order to make a stronger impact on the hearings scheduled Oct. 10 by the State Division of Highways.

THE PLANNING Commission hearing is tentatively slated for Monday, Sept. 23, and City Council hearing will take place Thursday, Oct. 3. Both meetings will be held at 7 p.m. in the Torrance High School Auditorium.

Councilmen agreed that it is important to the city to choose the route with the city's best interest in mind and make an oral presentation at the state hearing. It would not be satisfactory, they said, merely to make a written report at the Oct. 10 hearing. Spokesmen for the more than 200 interested citizens who turned out for the meeting stated that they would hold their presentations until the city hearings. Many of those present believed that the council would make its decision last night.

"**ANYTHING WE** would decide tonight wouldn't be legal because it wasn't advertised," said Mayor Albert Ison. City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer noted that the program was initiated in 1925. Television star Jack Webb was master of ceremonies for the awards ceremony.

OFFICER Surber was honored for his heroic actions in saving the lives of a woman and four children during an automobile accident on the Pasadena Freeway Jan. 22, 1967. When Surber arrived on the scene, he discovered a small child had been thrown clear of a car which had struck an abutment and burst into flames. The woman and three other children were still inside the burning automobile. He quickly pulled two of the children to safety, but discovered the woman was injured and wedged on the floor of the car. The fourth child was trapped beneath the injured woman. Officer Surber, disregarding the spreading flames, entered the automobile and freed the woman and child.

Los Angeles Police Officer George B. Surber, a Torrance resident, received the department's Medal of Valor yesterday in ceremonies conducted in Hollywood. Officer Surber was one of 14 members of the Los Angeles Police Department honored yesterday. A total of 147 medals—10 of them awarded posthumously—have been awarded since the program was initiated in 1925.

Months of investigation by the Torrance, Gardena, and Los Angeles Police Departments and other agencies culminated Friday when the four suspects were arrested. Picked up at the central Torrance Fire Station was Fireman Richard Faren, 31, of 2323 W. 230th St., who had served with the department for the past three and a half years. A second suspect, John Brady, 38, of 24 Silver Saddle Lane, Rolling Hills Estates, was a Torrance police patrolman for four years before resigning in Aug. 1964. Brady left his post after admitting that he had falsified arrest reports, but later sought to regain his job, stating that he had

been pressured into resigning. **ALSO ARRESTED** in connection with the car theft operation was a 12-year veteran of the Gardena Police Department, Sgt. Lynn Purcell, 33, of 1033 W. 184th St., Gardena. Fourth suspect is Henry Bernard Halicki, 27, of 18511 Mariposa Ave., Gardena. All four were arraigned Tuesday on charges of grand theft auto, grand theft of money, conspiracy, and receiving stolen property. **DETECTIVES** Neil Murrin and Sgt. W.T. Heins said that the ring is accused of stealing more than 100 late-model cars during the past two and a half years. Many of these cars have been recovered. The ring specialized in "hotwiring" cars from the (See ARRESTS, Page A-2)

es designate the "green route," while the dotted line depicts the "blue route." The light dashes show the "yellow route" in the southern section of Torrance. Lines marked "A," "B," and "C" connect the three major routes to provide a total of 12 alternates. The State Division of Highways has scheduled a public hearing Oct. 10 at Torrance High School.



GEORGE B. SURBER
Medal of Valor

Valor Award Given

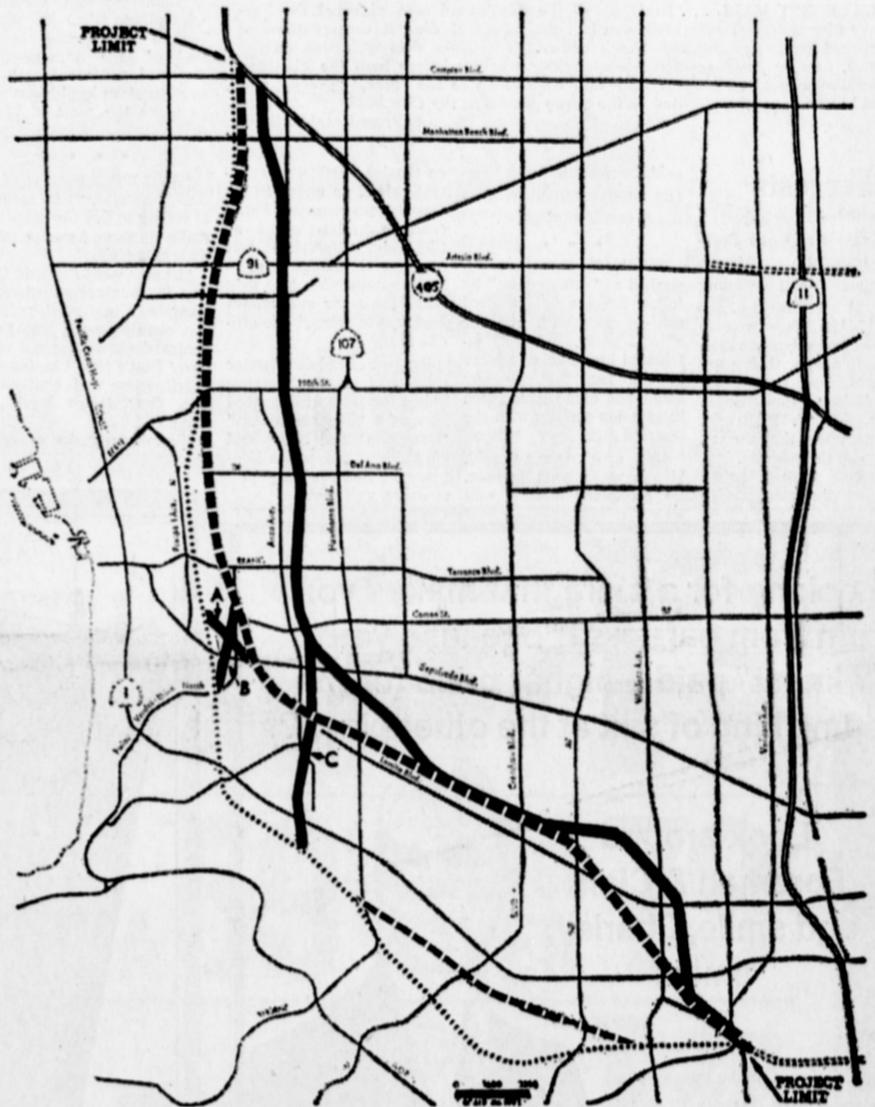
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FREEWAY ROUTES . . . Map shows the alternate routes for the proposed Torrance Freeway now being studied by the State Division of Highways. The solid black line coming off the San Diego Freeway and turning east to join the adopted route at Anaheim Street and Vermont Avenue (project limit) has been designated as the "red route." The heavy dash-

es designate the "green route," while the dotted line depicts the "blue route." The light dashes show the "yellow route" in the southern section of Torrance. Lines marked "A," "B," and "C" connect the three major routes to provide a total of 12 alternates. The State Division of Highways has scheduled a public hearing Oct. 10 at Torrance High School.

Ex-Policeman, Fireman Jailed

A Torrance fireman and a former Torrance policeman are among four persons implicated in a \$500,000 statewide car theft ring. Months of investigation by the Torrance, Gardena, and Los Angeles Police Departments and other agencies culminated Friday when the four suspects were arrested. Picked up at the central Torrance Fire Station was Fireman Richard Faren, 31, of 2323 W. 230th St., who had served with the department for the past three and a half years. A second suspect, John Brady, 38, of 24 Silver Saddle Lane, Rolling Hills Estates, was a Torrance police patrolman for four years before resigning in Aug. 1964. Brady left his post after admitting that he had falsified arrest reports, but later sought to regain his job, stating that he had

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Police Officer Improves . . .

Los Angeles Police Officer James Pettinato, 21, a Torrance resident, was reported in an improved condition Tuesday at Central Receiving Hospital. Pettinato was one of two Los Angeles policemen injured Monday in a gun battle which left two men—including Officer Gary W. Murakami—dead. Murakami, a Gardena resident, died about 11 a.m. Monday after he was shot while investigating a report of a nude gunman in the Crenshaw-Slauson area. The gunman, identified as Addison Edward Cash, 25, was killed by officers coming to Murakami's aid. Another officer, Richard O. Harsma, 31, of Los Angeles, also was injured. He was reported in an improved condition Tuesday.

Prep Schedules Revealed . . .

Football schedules for the area's high school teams are printed on today's Press-Herald Sports Page. Sports Editor Henry Burke has compiled the schedule and produced it in a form which may be easily clipped and saved for future reference. Play begins Friday, Sept. 20, for all high school teams.

Park Negotiations Settled . . .

Legal tangles holding up action on the proposed Pueblo Park have been unraveled, giving the city free rein to develop the park. City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer announced at Tuesday's City Council meeting that American Standard, owner of the property, had agreed to lease the land to the city on a one-year cancellation basis. Before negotiating with city legal officials this week, the company had sought a 30-day cancellation clause.